

Amendments to the Claims

1-21 (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus adapted to convert a flexible liner, including a layer of composite material comprising thermoplastics material and reinforcing fibres, into a structural member within a duct, which comprises a front portion adapted to be inserted in the liner, a central portion having a first heating means on one side of the layer of composite material, and a rear portion having consolidation means for forcing the ~~heated~~ layer of composite material, after heating thereof, towards the duct for consolidation and cooling under pressure to form the structural member, the first heating means producing ~~pressurised~~ hot gas under pressure, the central portion being so constructed and arranged to force the hot gas under pressure through the layer of composite material from one side thereof to heat the layer of composite material, and to provide an air gap on ~~the~~ an opposite side of the layer of composite material while such heating takes place, and wherein a further heating means is provided, which is ~~substantially surrounds the heating means~~ ~~and is~~ on an said opposite side of the composite layer to that of the first heating means, and is adapted to ensure more uniform heating of both the liner and composite material.

23. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the further heating means is a passive heating device.

24. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the further heating means is an active heater, containing a heating element.

25. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the layer of composite material is of tubular form having an inside and an outside, the central portion has inner and outer members positioned respectively inside and outside of said layer of composite material, one of said inner and outer members ~~which~~ has ~~the~~ said first heating means, and the other ~~the~~ has said further heating means.

26. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the said other member, with the further heating means, also acts as support means to provide the air gap.

27. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the inner member has ~~the~~ said first heating means, so that the layer of composite material is heated from the inside thereof, while the outer member comprises the further heating means.

28. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the outer member is annular, surrounding and spaced from the inner member.

29. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the outer member has ~~the~~ said first heating means, so that the layer of composite material is heated from the outside thereof, while the inner member comprises the further heating means.

30. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein means are provided for directing ~~the~~ hot gas ~~is directed~~ from the air gap forwardly to provide pre-heating of a front portion of the liner ~~at the front portion~~.

31. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a source of compressed air is provided to deliver compressed air to said apparatus, the hot gas is produced by heating ~~a supply of~~ compressed air from said source thereof.

32. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a source of compressed air is provided to deliver compressed air to said apparatus, and ~~unheated compressed air is used~~ as the consolidation means is actuated by compressed air from said source to force ~~forcing~~ the heated layer of composite material into contact with the duct.

33. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a source of compressed air is provided to deliver compressed air to said apparatus, and the compressed air inflates a flexible bag means which acts on the layer of composite material.

34. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the flexible bag means is attached to the central portion.

35. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the flexible bag is expanded from the rear, unrolling as it does so.

36. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the flexible bag is of plastics.

37. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 36, wherein the flexible bag is of PVC.

38. (currently amended) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the bag is of ~~silicon~~ silicone based material.

39. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the liner includes an outer thermoplastics layer between the duct and the layer of composite material.

40. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the apparatus is moved along the duct by being winched from its front portion.

41. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein compressed air and power for the heating means are supplied through lines attached to the apparatus.

42. (previously presented) Liner conversion apparatus according to claim 22, wherein a mobile unit generates the compressed air supply and the power to operate the apparatus.